



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse
Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

April 13, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Oversight Committee Members
MH/DD/SAS Commission
Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs
Advocacy Organizations and Groups
North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
County Managers
County Manager Chairs
North Carolina Council of Community Programs
Area Program Directors
Area Program Board Chairs
Provider Organizations
State Facility Directors
MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups
MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups
Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders

FROM: Mike Moseley

I am honored to have been appointed by NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom to head the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services during this exciting time in our history. The challenges associated with the reform of the mental health system are tremendous. However, as difficult as the task ahead of us will be, we should take delight in knowing that the individuals of North Carolina with disabilities and their families will be the ultimate beneficiaries of our efforts.

I applaud the members of the Legislature, Secretary Hooker Odom, and Dr. Rich Visingardi for their leadership in laying the foundation for the dramatic changes to our mh/dd/sa system that are beginning to unfold. The vision is clear, and I am committed to taking the necessary steps to continue to move things forward.



Division staff will work diligently, in collaboration with our colleagues in the Division of Medical Assistance, to finalize the service definitions for submission to the Federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We will work with our partners in DHHS, the County Commissioners Association, and the Community Council to expedite the completion of the Local Management Entity contracting process. We will continue work on the utilization management procedures.

As we move forward, I am well aware of the reality that area programs and provider agencies across the State are at different points in their transitioning activities. Therefore, we will be flexible in working with LMEs as they divest themselves of direct service provision and we will be understanding of providers as they seek to transform their historical ways of doing business.

The success of our efforts to reform the system will be measured, in part, by our ability to work in collaboration with one another. I look forward to working with you in that manner.

cc: Carmen Hooker Odom
Lanier Cansler
James Bernstein
DHHS Division Directors
DMH/DD/SAS Executive Leadership Team
Dick Oliver
Kaye Holder
Wayne Williams
Jim Klingler
Richard Slipsky
DMH/DD/SAS Staff

